

Regular Board Meeting

Tuesday, October 27, 2015

Education Centre

St. Catharines

5:30 - 6:00 p.m. [Information Session]

6:15 - 7:00 p.m. [Private Session]

7:00 - 10:00 p.m. [Public Session]

A G E N D A

A. COMMENCEMENT OF THE MEETING OF THE BOARD

1. Call to Order and Noting of Members Absent
2. Declaration of Conflict of Interest

B. COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE

1. Motion to Move to Committee of the Whole (Private Session)
2. Motion to Return to Open Board (Public Meeting)

C. SINGING OF 'O CANADA'

Stevensville Public School orchestra will perform 'O Canada', via video

D. REFLECTIVE READING

By Trustee Diane Chase

E. BUSINESS OF THE BOARD

1. Adoption of the Agenda

Recommended Motion:

“That the Agenda be adopted.”

2. Approval of Board Minutes

Pages 6-20

Recommended Motion:

“That the Minutes of the Regular Meeting of the District School Board of Niagara dated October 13, 2015 be confirmed as submitted.”

3. Business Arising from the Minutes

4. Ratification of Business Conducted in Committee of the Whole

Recommended Motion:

“That the business transacted in Committee of the Whole be now ratified by the Board.”

F. EDUCATIONAL SHOWCASING OR PRESENTATIONS

1. Director’s Report and Recognition

W Hoshizaki/J Dickson
Pages 21-24

Update from Provincial, Regional and Local Perspective

- a) Recognition of Evinn Smith, student at Gainsborough Public School
- b) Director’s Update to Trustees

2. Educational Showcases

G. STUDENT ACHIEVEMENT REPORT

1. 2014/15 Board Improvement Plan for Student Achievement J Dickson/H McGregor
Summary Report Pages 25-29

Recommended Motion:

“That the Board receive the 2014/15 BIPSA Summary Report.”

H. DELEGATIONS

I. BOARD RECESS (Optional)

J. OLD BUSINESS

1. ACCOUNTS

S Veld
Page 30

Recommended Motion:

“That the Summary of Accounts paid in Batch Numbers 1625 to 1636, for the month of September 2015, totalling \$18,664,621.05 be received.”

2. REPORT OF THE SPECIAL EDUCATION ADVISORY COMMITTEE

J Ajandi/D Robinson
Pages 31-46

Recommended Motion:

“That the report of the Special Education Advisory Committee, dated October 8, 2015 be received.”

3. REPORT OF THE STUDENT TRUSTEE SENATE

J Dubé/K Hilborn
Pages 47-52

Recommended Motion:

“That the report of the Student Trustee Senate dated October 20, 2015 be received.”

4. REPORT OF THE SUPERVISED ALTERNATIVE LEARNING COMMITTEE

C Keddy Scott
Pages 53-55

Recommended Motion:

“That the report of the Supervised Alternative Learning Committee dated October 20, 2015, be received.”

5. REPORT OF THE FINANCE COMMITTEE

K Maves
Pages 56-70

Recommended Motion:

“That the report of the Finance Committee dated October 20, 2015, be received’;
and

“That Policy J-01 *Transportation Eligibility and Service* be confirmed as presented”;
and

“That revised Policy C-04 *Community Planning and Partnerships* be approved as presented”; and

“That staff be directed to enter into a three-year contract with Staples Advantage, effective November 1, 2015 to September 9, 2018, for the provision of toner cartridges, with the option to renew for an additional two-year period.”

K. QUESTIONS ASKED OF AND BY BOARD MEMBERS

L. NEW BUSINESS

M. INFORMATION AND PROPOSALS

1. Staff Reports

- (a) The naming of the new West Fort Erie Public School. Trustees will be asked to choose the name, via ballot, from the names recommended by the Naming Committee. (Handout)

J Roberto

2. Trustee Information Session

An information session about DSBN Math was presented to trustees.

3. **Correspondence and Communications**

- (a) Correspondence from Blue Water District School Board Page 71
re: expansion of Ontario's Kindergarten to grade 12 curriculum
on Aboriginal Education

4. **Trustee Communications and School Liaison**

5. **Ontario Public School Boards' Association Report** J Ajandi

6. **Future Meetings**

The calendars for November and December are attached.

Pages 72-73

N. ADJOURNMENT

Recommended Motion:

“That this meeting of the District School Board of Niagara be now adjourned.”

**October 27, 2015 Board Meeting
Director's Update to Trustees**

Director's Recognition for Extraordinary Contributions – Evin Smith, Student, Gainsborough PS

Evin Smith was born with a cyst in his brain. His parents were told that he was never going to walk, never going to talk. However, with his willpower and the help of the Niagara Children's Centre, Evin was provided with everything he needed to help overcome the odds. At around age 5 Evin became mobile and just last year was his first time not having to use a wheelchair.

From the very first day Evin arrived at Gainsborough Public School he demonstrated determination and perseverance. He always wanted to try things that specialists had felt he might not be able to master. He was told he may never learn to write, but wanted to hold a pencil and write in class. He had been told he would not be able to walk without some support, and was determined to take small steps each day and learn to walk. His drive and passion in meeting these goals are amazing to watch in such a young student. He has inspired many to believe in the best, and to believe in those miracles in life.

Evin shows such strength in his ability to try new things. Although Evin was re-diagnosed as having cerebral palsy and continues to wear braces on his legs, he tried out for a few sports teams. He didn't make the soccer team at school this year, but he didn't give up on sports. Instead it inspired him to set a new goal to run in a cross country race. He keeps trying, keeps learning, and keeps pushing himself further each and every day. The cross country course was a challenge, but Evin made sure that he ran the entire course and crossed that finish line!

Evin exemplifies the passion that is inside all of us. He has learned to see that passion, and has learned how to overcome the fears that cause us to give up. We know that the sky is the limit for Evin's future. He will reach for the stars...or even higher!

This year the District School Board of Niagara's theme is "You are the Hero of this Story." A hero can be described as a champion, someone brave and an idol we can all look up to. Evin, you undoubtedly are the hero of this story and I want to thank you for not only inspiring all of us here at the DSBN, but anyone lucky enough to meet you.

Evin, you are most deserving of the Director's Recognition for Extraordinary Contributions award. Congratulations!

Local

Jeanne Sauvé Student Meets Justin Trudeau!

Earlier this month, Joshua Bezanson, grade 8 student at Jeanne Sauvé, met Canada's new Prime Minister Justin Trudeau during his recent visit to Niagara. Joshua was the only one in the crowd that spoke to the then Prime Minister candidate and the 3 minute conversation included Joshua discussing various issues, including vote splitting.



DSBN Academy and iHub Tour

On October 20th, a Niagara Region Leadership Tour of the DSBN Academy and iHub took place. Arranged by the Education Foundation of Niagara (EFN) in partnership with the iHub and the Region's Economic Development Department, the tour helped to build relations and raise the profile of DSBN innovation among Niagara's policy makers.

Many presentations were made, including one by EFN's Cindy Paskey that highlighted the Foundation's work with a view to connecting resources available through the Niagara Region. The iHub Manager and Dino Miele, DSBN's Chief Information Officer highlighted the iHub's leading edge programs that bring education research, technology and innovation together for the benefit of the Niagara Region.

Participants were given an overview of the Academy followed by a guided tour from principals Lisa Nazar, Andrea Grieve and students Zach and Aarti.

Thanks to all who participated in this collaborative event.



DSBN Superintendents Presenting at International Conference

In January, superintendents Wes Hahn and John Dickson will be presenting at the International Congress for School Effectiveness and Improvement conference being held in Glasgow, Scotland. The conference will cover leadership development and practice to build sustained improvement. John and Wes will be presenting on the paper they recently wrote, "Transfer of Learning: Making an Impact from Formal Professional Learning to Everyday Classroom Practice."

Sophisticated Reporting Structures

Niagara Student Transportation Services (NSTS) has emerged as an early leader in the Province in the area of Efficiency and Effectiveness (E & E).

NSTS is being recognized in the Ministry of Education's final summary report on E & E as having a best practice in data management and reporting. In their report, the Ministry notes "NSTS has one of the most robust and comprehensive reporting and data analysis programs observed throughout the E & E Reviews."

Congratulations to Lori Powell, Executive Director, and staff for their leadership and hard work in this area.

Sir Winston Churchill Bulldogs Win Provincial Pre-OFSAA Meet

Cross Country teams from across Ontario assembled at the Sinclair Highlands Invitational Pre-OFSAA meet in the Collingwood area on October 16th. This highly competitive meet serves as a warm up event to the championship held at the same location on November 7th.

Well over 70 different schools from across Ontario competed with boys and girls teams in three different age categories. The Sir Winston Churchill Bulldogs won gold in both the midget boys and senior boys divisions. The midget girls team finished fourth, junior girls 17th, and the senior girls were 8th. Collectively, the boys captured the Top Overall Boys Team Championship and the Bulldog team earned enough points to claim the Overall Combined Team Championship banner. The Bulldogs are now preparing to qualify for the OFSAA meet in November.

Congratulations to the exceptional Bulldog student athletes and to coaches Benny Ralston and Barry Wills as well as team manager Kelly Braun. Way to go Bulldogs!

DSBN Cross Country Championship

Fun was had by all at the DSBN Cross Country Championship on Thursday, October 15th!

Thanks to DSBN Athletic Coordinator John Haeni and those involved in the planning of this event.



DSBN Administrator Leadership Conference

The DSBN Administrator Leadership Conference 2015 *"Leading Into The 21st Century and Beyond!"* took place on October 21 and 22 and was a tremendous success. This was the first time in the last three years that system administrators had the opportunity to attend a conference together and it provided lots of opportunity for professional development, networking and socializing with colleagues.

The two day conference included inspirational keynote speakers, as well as impressive breakout sessions with panelists who spoke on topics ranging from *"Creating Magic – Leadership Strategies"*, *"Constructive Approach to Mathematics"*, *"Mental Health and Moving Forward"*, and many more.

Thank you to members of the Leadership Conference Committee for their hard work and dedication in planning such an informative and engaging conference.



Board Report

2014/15 Board Improvement Plan for Student Achievement Summary

October 27, 2015

Background

We are pleased to share the outcomes of our focused work for the 2014/15 school year. As you are aware, a Board Improvement Plan for Student Achievement (BIPSA) is a yearly plan that identifies our Board's priorities and strategies for supporting student achievement and well-being.

At the March 24th, 2015 Board Meeting, we shared with you a mid-year update of our progress on our BIPSA goals. Since then, as a system we have continued our commitment to supporting student success and learning for all.

DSBN's improved and sustained results can be attributed to numerous actions and strategies that have been our focus over the last few years. DSBN continues our systematic approach to improving outcomes for all students.

Overall BIPSA Results

It is important to note that EQAO achievement results are just one measure used to gauge student learning. They are most effective when considered alongside teacher observations, assessments of student work and other important data.

Elementary

As you are aware EQAO was not administered in our schools for primary and junior classes in spring 2015. In Appendix A you can see our five year trend through June 2014, showing gains in 5 of the 6 areas measured. This year we focused our attention on junior math while maintaining our progress in the other EQAO measures.

Secondary

Literacy

Ontario Secondary School Literacy Test (2014/15)

- 83% of students met or exceeded the provincial standard, an increase of 1% over last year
- provincially 82% of students were successful on the test
- DSBN has made a 5% gain over 5 years

English Pass Rates and Students Achieving Above Provincial Standard (2014/15)

Course	Pass Rates	Students Achieving Above 70%
Grade 9 Academic English	97.9% (-0.3%)	77% (-1%)
Grade 9 Applied English	87.2% (-3.8%)	58.2% (+3.5%)
Grade 10 Academic English	98% (-0.3%)	76.7% (+2.5%)
Grade 10 Applied English	91.3% (+4.3%)	58.4% (+8.6%)

Note: the increases and decreases reflect a 1 year change

Mathematics

Grade 9 EQAO Mathematics (2014/15)

- Board and school results are embargoed until October 28th, 2015
- a Board Report will be presented at the November 10th, 2015 Board Meeting

Math Pass Rates and Students Achieving Above Provincial Standard (2014/15)

Course	Pass Rates	Students Achieving Above 70%
Grade 9 Academic Math	98.1% (-0.3%)	70.6% (+1.1%)
Grade 9 Applied Math	94.5% (-1.9%)	62.1% (+0.7%)
Grade 10 Academic Math	95.4% (-0.7%)	68.6% (+4.8%)
Grade 10 Applied Math	90.8% (+3.7%)	58.7% (+3.5%)

Note: the increases and decreases reflect a 1 year change

Credit Accumulation

Grade	Credits	1 Year Change	5 Year Change
9	8 out of 8 credits	-0.46%	+5.61%
10	16 out of 16 credits	+2.77%	+13.39%
11	23 or more credits	+5.55%	+15.37%

Graduation Rate

- 2013/2014 five year DSBN graduation rate is 84%
- DSBN graduation rate is 1% higher than the Province

Analysis

Our comprehensive analysis helps inform our next steps by identifying areas of strength and areas requiring additional focus. We are encouraged by our continued growth in both elementary and secondary as reflected by a variety of data and evidence. The ultimate goal is to ensure all students are learning to their full potential.

Specific strategies that made a positive impact on student learning in 2014/15:

- honoured each student as an individual and created student profiles that reflected personalized and differentiated instruction
- continued to focus on our clearly defined goals for Literacy, Numeracy and Student Success across the system within each school
- the Director led the system by setting directions and supporting the leadership of all Superintendents, Principals and Vice Principals
- Superintendents focused their efforts in supporting the unique needs of each school community and concentrated their time in specific focus schools
- all Principals and Vice Principals participated in and led the professional learning of their staff in support of student learning
- all of our Principals and Vice Principals collaborated and learned with their colleagues in a wide variety of professional learning opportunities
- all staff participated in job-embedded professional learning during the year
- Instructional Coaches worked in all of our schools to support school and classroom-based professional learning
- continued our use of research based and evidence informed high yield strategies
- supported the continued use of school-based professional learning communities and learning teams
- offered Primary, Junior and Intermediate AQ Math course free to all elementary teachers
- Grade 1 to 8 Math Scope and Sequence document was updated and used in all of our schools
- all elementary teachers received a monthly math newsletter to access research based instructional strategies and resources to align to the Scope and Sequence document
- students used DreamBox in Kindergarten through Grade 6 at home and at school
- students with Special Education needs and English Language Learners were supported through flexible and adaptive delivery models of instruction and support
- Math Homework Help was available for students in Grades 7 through 12 to assist them outside of school time
- Program Leaders and Instructional Coaches participated in a variety of leadership and instructional learning opportunities
- all secondary schools and Alternative Education programs continued to implement the School Support Initiative (SSI) in Grade 9 and 10 applied classes
- all secondary Math Teachers participated in a wide variety of math learning opportunities
- Tutors in the Classroom and Basic Tutoring programs continued their work in our elementary schools
- the Benchmark Assessment System (BAS) was implemented in all junior classrooms
- Early Intervention teachers were added to support primary students using the Leveled Literacy Intervention (LLI) tool

Summary

We are proud of the dedicated teachers and support staff who work diligently to meet the needs of each individual student to assist them in reaching their full potential. This work, every single day, across our system is making a difference for our students and their families and we are dedicated to continuing to inspire, empower and support all of our learners.

Recommendation

“That the Board receive the 2014/15 BIPSA Summary report.”

Appended Data

Attached is the five year trend data for the District School Board of Niagara and the province.

Respectfully submitted,

John Dickson
Superintendent of School Support Services

and

Helen McGregor
Superintendent of Education

BOARD RESULTS COMPARED TO PROVINCIAL RESULTS OVER FIVE YEARS

EQAO Assessment	Percentage of Students Meeting or Exceeding the Provincial Standard											
	2009-2010		2010-2011		2011-2012		2012-2013		2013-2014		Change over five years	
	DSBN	Province	DSBN	Province	DSBN	Province	DSBN	Province	DSBN	Province	DSBN	Province
Grade 3 Reading	63%	62%	67%	65%	69%	66%	71%	68%	73%	70%	+10%	+8%
Grade 3 Writing	67%	70%	73%	73%	78%	76%	82%	77%	82%	78%	+15%	+8%
Grade 3 Mathematics	68%	71%	67%	69%	69%	68%	69%	67%	69%	67%	+1%	-4%
Grade 6 Reading	72%	72%	76%	74%	76%	75%	78%	77%	79%	79%	+7%	+7%
Grade 6 Writing	67%	70%	72%	73%	73%	74%	75%	76%	77%	78%	+10%	+8%
Grade 6 Mathematics	58%	61%	57%	58%	54%	58%	51%	57%	47%	54%	-11%	-7%

Note - there are no EQAO results for Grade 3 and 6 for the 2014-2015 school year

EQAO Assessment	Percentage of Students Meeting or Exceeding the Provincial Standard											
	2010-2011		2011-2012		2012-2013		2013-2014		2014-2015		5 Year Trend	
	DSBN	Province	DSBN	Province	DSBN	Province	DSBN	Province	DSBN	Province		
Grade 9 Applied Mathematics	36%	42%	42%	44%	36%	42%	42%	44%	n/a**	n/a*		n/a*
Grade 9 Academic Mathematics	73%	83%	77%	84%	73%	83%	77%	84%	n/a**	n/a*		n/a*
Grade 10 OSSLT (Ontario Secondary School Literacy Test)	78%	83%	79%	82%	78%	83%	79%	82%	83%	82%	+5%	-1%

*Note - the Province did not share a Provincial result for Grade 9 EQAO for the 2014-2015 school year

**Note - School and Board results embargoed until October 28, 2015

DISTRICT SCHOOL BOARD OF NIAGARA

SUMMARY OF ACCOUNTS

Background and Rationale:

The Summary of Accounts is regularly presented to the Trustees in order to disclose the Board expenditures paid during the previous month. The Summary highlights the costs associated with employee benefits, transportation, utilities, and the total of all other non-salary expenditures.

Summary of Accounts:

A summary of accounts paid in Batch Numbers 1625 to 1636, for the month of September 2015, is as follows.

Employee Benefits	\$ 6,847,992.54
Transportation	101,552.48
Utilities	508,466.11
Other	<u>11,206,609.92</u>
Total	<u>\$ 18,664,621.05</u>

Recommended Motion:

“That the Summary of Accounts paid in Batch Numbers 1625 to 1636, for the month of September 2015, totaling \$18,664,621.05 be received.”

Supporting Data:

A computer listing of all cheques and electronic fund transfers, issued by the Board for the month of September 2015, will be in the Director’s office during the Board meeting.

Respectfully submitted,

Stacy Veld
Superintendent of Business Services

Board Meeting of October 27, 2015

For further information, please contact Stacy Veld or the Director of Education.



Bluewater District School Board

P.O. Box 190, 351 1st Avenue North
Chesley, Ontario N0G 1L0
Telephone: (519) 363-2014 Fax: (519) 370-2909
www.bwdsb.on.ca

October 1, 2015

The Honourable Liz Sandals
Minister of Education
22nd Floor, Mowat Block, 900 Bay Street
Toronto, ON
M7A 1L2

Dear Minister Sandals:

On behalf of the Board of Trustees of Bluewater District School Board, we are sending this letter to bring to your attention the following motion that was passed at our Regular Meeting of the Board on September 22, 2015:

Moved by M. Gaviller, Seconded by J. Dawson

THAT Bluewater District School Board write to Minister of Education Liz Sandals requesting that the Ministry, in consultation with First Nations, continue and expand the process of developing 'Kindergarten to grade 12 curriculum and learning resources on Aboriginal peoples in Canadian history, and the history and legacy of residential schools', as per Calls to Action 62 i) and 63 i) of the Truth and Reconciliation Report, and further,

THAT the letter when written be sent to Premier Wynne, OPSBA President Michael Barrett, local MPPs and all school board chairs in Ontario as well as National Chief Perry Bellegarde, Assembly of First Nations; MPP David Zimmer, Liberal Minister of Aboriginal Affairs; MPP Norm Miller, PC Aboriginal Affairs Critic; MPP Patrick Brown, PC Education Critic; MPP France G  linas, NDP Aboriginal Affairs Critic; and MPP Lisa Gretzky, NDP Education Critic.

While we recognize the efforts that have been made by the Ministry of Education to expand Ontario's curriculum to incorporate Native Studies courses, the intent of this motion is to go well beyond what currently exists by urging you, in consultation with First Nations, to work towards cultivating a much deeper awareness and understanding amongst our youth of all facets of Aboriginal Canadian history. Fostering stronger connections and relationships between Aboriginal and non-Aboriginal Canadians starts with education, and we believe that Ontario can lead the way through developing a more comprehensive curriculum where teachings on Aboriginal cultures, history and the legacy of residential schools are embedded across several subject areas.

As always, our shared commitment remains focused on providing quality education for every student in a safe and caring environment.

Sincerely,

Ron Motz
Chair

Marg Gaviller
Vice-Chair

November 2015

Trustee Calendar

Oct 2015							Dec 2015							
S	M	T	W	T	F	S	S	M	T	W	T	F	S	
				1	2	3				1	2	3	4	5
4	5	6	7	8	9	10	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	
11	12	13	14	15	16	17	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	
18	19	20	21	22	23	24	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	
25	26	27	28	29	30	31	27	28	29	30	31			

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
Nov 1	2	3 6:00 PM Program and Planning Committee	4 4:00 PM PIC Conference	5 5:30 PM 25 Years of Service Awards Recognition	6	7
8	9	10 6:15 PM Board Meeting	11 1:00 PM SAL	12 6:00 PM SEAC	13	14
15	16	17	18 6:00 PM Finance Committee	19	20	21
22	23 5:30 PM Audit Committee Meeting	24 6:15 PM Board Meeting	25 7:00 PM Student Trustee Senate	26	27	28
29	30	Dec 1 6:00 PM Program & Planning Committee	2 1:00 PM SAL 5:30 PM PIC	3	4	5

